

APPROVED: Meeting No. 43-95

ATTEST: *Paula Jewell*

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND  
Meeting No. 30-95

May 23, 1995

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession in the Council Chambers, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, on May 23, 1995, at 7:35 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor James F. Coyle

Councilmember Robert E. Dorsey

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember Nina A. Weisbroth

In attendance were City Manager Rick Kuckkahn, City Clerk Paula Jewell, Finance Department Director Kevin Deckard, and Budget Planning Team staff members Chris Freel and Susan Fournier. Also in attendance were Director of Public Works Bob Goodin and Data Processing Manager David Mays.

Re: Continuation of 5/16/95 Budget  
Worksession with Department of  
Public Works.

Mr. Kuckkahn said that staff was looking into alternative ways to perform the smoothseal/contract maintenance and refuse collection programs. Mayor Coyle suggested that a public education process may be needed to inform citizens how they can call in to City Hall to report damaged sidewalks and other problems. Councilmember Dorsey suggested that civic associations could also help by establishing their own

inspection groups within the communities to point out problems in the neighborhoods.

Re: Budget Worksession with  
Finance Department

Finance Director Kevin Deckard reported on the following Finance  
Department activities:

- (a) Development of a report that would be similar to the City's Affirmative Action Plan, however, it would be oriented towards purchasing and contracting data and information.
- (b) - The Department is planning to conduct a survey to find out what which services residents feel they need from their City government.
- (c) Issuance of water bills that would give residents an opportunity to include a donation towards the City's emergency assistance program (REAP).
- (d) The Department is considering implementation of a surcharge on summer water usage to help finance CIP projects (e.g., water meter replacements).

Mr. Deckard said changes will also be taking place in the Data Processing Division that would (1) provide citizen access to the City's bulletin board; (2) implement a mobile police reporting system so that officers can use lap top computers to generate police department reports; (3) expand the computer network to some of the City's off-site locations; and (4) move several applications from the City's mainframe computer into the client-server system.

Meeting No. 30-95

3

May 23, 1995

Re: Worksession with the Human  
Rights Commission

The Mayor and Council met with members of the Human Rights Commission, Community Services Director Josephine Roberts, and Human Rights Officers Mike Mitchell and Teresa James.

1. Outline of the Mediation Process

Chairman Mayo Robertson noted that the Commission had met with staff and developed a proposed outline of the mediation process. HRC is recommending that human rights complaints be subject to a compulsory offer of the City's mediation services. This would exclude housing and public accommodations issues because HRC feels there aren't many of these types of issues and generally they impact individuals and not organizations or agencies. When mediation was not successful, complaints would then be referred to state and county agencies. The types of issues HRC would handle through mediation would be those dealing with wrongful employment and other prohibitions, retaliations, obstructing enforcement of the human rights ordinance, and hate-violence actions. The Commission also asked that the Mayor and Council complete the process of appointing Commission applicants in order that the Commission can operate with a full complement.

2. Proposed Amendments to the Human Rights Ordinance

The Mayor and Council may want to move forward with a public hearing in July. Mayor Coyle suggested that the proposed time line be reviewed by the City

Attorney's Office. A suggestion was made to adopt the flow chart and the time line which outlined the process along with the ordinance.

3. Peer Mediation in Schools

Councilmember Krasnow suggested that the focus of this program be in the middle schools; as this is often where a lot of problems start.

Commissioner Doug Jones reported that staff was gathering information about federal grants which the Commission could pursue to help fund the establishment of a community mediation center or program. He suggested that such a program could result in being a self-sufficient operation or even a profit-builder for the City.

Councilmember Marrinan said that the City was exploring new grounds with community mediation, and he suggested that an evaluation of the program be undertaken. Councilmember Dorsey remarked that Bowie State University conducted a conflict resolution and mediation program, and he suggested that Bowie might be used as a resource in evaluating the City's program.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the Worksession adjourned at 9:23 p.m., to reconvene in Worksession on May 30, 1995 at 7:30 p.m.